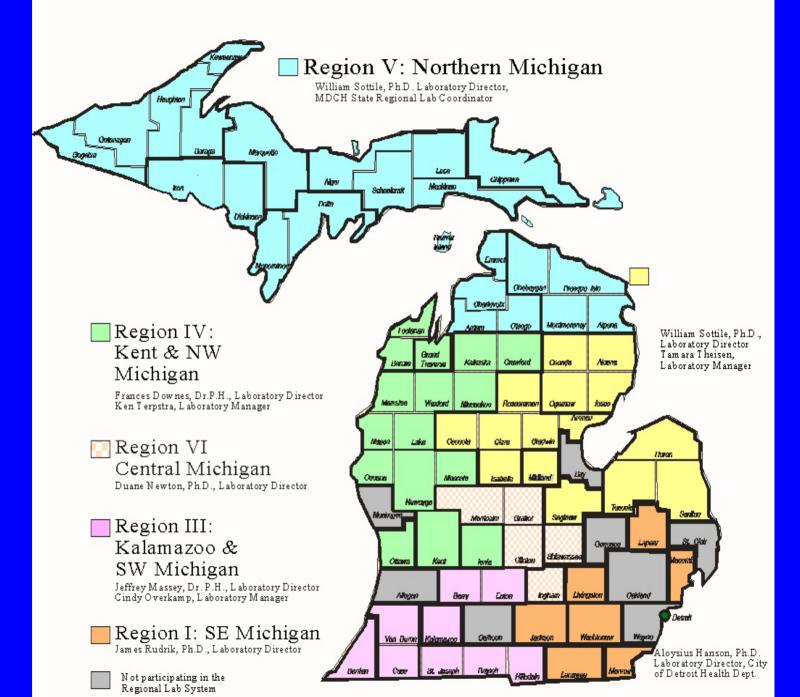
The Limited Public Health Certificate: the Michigan Experience

Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Laboratory Director

Michigan Department of Community Health

MICHIGAN REGIONAL LABORATORY SYSTEM



Testing Characteristics

- Moderate tests
 - RPR
 - Gram stains
- Point-of-care testing
 - Hemacue
 - Cholestek
 - Urine pregnancy
 - Urine dipstick
 - Wet mounts

- Personnel
 - Nurses
 - Medical assistants
 - PA, Nurse practitioner,MD

Quality Assurance Program Components

- Manual
 - Quality Control
 - Personnel requirements, training, competency
 - Standard operating procedures
- Internal Proficiency
- Safety
- Accreditation and Certification

Lessons Learned

- Even simple-to-perform tests are not error free.
- Rapid tests are not the same as waived tests.
- Costs of testing is more than reagents costs.
- Safety is not always prioritized.
- Turnaround time for serum, oral transudate are 1 day for negative results and 3-4 days for positive results.
- You are never finished with quality assurance.